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other automated interdealer quotation system designated by the Commission for purposes of this section.

(4) The term *Qualifying Purchases* shall mean *bona fide* purchases by a broker or dealer of a penny stock for its own account, each of which involves at least 100 shares, but excluding any block purchase involving more than one percent of the outstanding shares or units of the security.

[57 FR 18034, Apr. 28, 1992]

§ 240.15g-8 Sales of escrowed securities of blank check companies.

As a means reasonably designed to prevent fraudulent, deceptive, or manipulative acts or practices, it shall be unlawful for any person to sell or offer to sell any security that is deposited and held in an escrow or trust account pursuant to Rule 419 under the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR 230.419), or any interest in or related to such security, other than pursuant to a qualified domestic relations order as defined by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (26 U.S.C. 1 *et seq.*), or Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (29 U.S.C. 1001 *et seq.*), or the rules thereunder.

[57 FR 18045, Apr. 28, 1992]

§ 240.15g-9 Sales practice requirements for certain low-priced securities.

(a) As a means reasonably designed to prevent fraudulent, deceptive, or manipulative acts or practices, it shall be unlawful for a broker or dealer to sell a penny stock to, or to effect the purchase of a penny stock by, any person unless:

(1) The transaction is exempt under paragraph (c) of this section; or

(2) Prior to the transaction:

(i) The broker or dealer has approved the person's account for transactions in penny stocks in accordance with the procedures set forth in paragraph (b) of this section; and

(ii) The broker or dealer has received from the person a written agreement to the transaction setting forth the identity and quantity of the penny stock to be purchased.

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(b) In order to approve a person's account for transactions in penny stocks, the broker or dealer must:

(1) Obtain from the person information concerning the person's financial situation, investment experience, and investment objectives;

(2) Reasonably determine, based on the information required by paragraph (b)(1) of this section and any other information known by the broker-dealer, that transactions in penny stocks are suitable for the person, and that the person (or the person's independent adviser in these transactions) has sufficient knowledge and experience in financial matters that the person (or the person's independent adviser in these transactions) reasonably may be expected to be capable of evaluating the risks of transactions in penny stocks;

(3) Deliver to the person a written statement:

(i) Setting forth the basis on which the broker or dealer made the determination required by paragraph (b)(2) of this section;

(ii) Stating in a highlighted format that it is unlawful for the broker or dealer to effect a transaction in a penny stock subject to the provisions of paragraph (a)(2) of this section unless the broker or dealer has received, prior to the transaction, a written agreement to the transaction from the person; and

(iii) Stating in a highlighted format immediately preceding the customer signature line that:

(A) The broker or dealer is required by this section to provide the person with the written statement; and

(B) The person should not sign and return the written statement to the broker or dealer if it does not accurately reflect the person's financial situation, investment experience, and investment objectives; and

(4) Obtain from the person a manually signed and dated copy of the written statement required by paragraph (b)(3) of this section.

(c) For purposes of this section, the following transactions shall be exempt:

(1) Transactions that are exempt under 17 CFR 240.15g-1 (a), (b), (d), (e), and (f).

(2) Transactions that meet the requirements of 17 CFR 230.505 or 230.506

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(including, where applicable, the requirements of 17 CFR 230.501 through 230.503, and 17 CFR 230.507 through 230.508), or transactions with an issuer not involving any public offering pursuant to section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933.

(3) Transactions in which the purchaser is an established customer of the broker or dealer.

(d) For purposes of this section:

(1) The term *penny stock* shall have the same meaning as in 17 CFR 240.3a51-1.

(2) The term *established customer* shall mean any person for whom the broker or dealer, or a clearing broker on behalf of such broker or dealer, carries an account, and who in such account:

(i) Has effected a securities transaction, or made a deposit of funds or securities, more than one year previously; or

(ii) Has made three purchases of penny stocks that occurred on separate days and involved different issuers.

[54 FR 35481, Aug. 28, 1989. Redesignated and amended at 58 FR 37417, July 12, 1993]

§ 240.15g-100 Schedule 15G—Information to be included in the document distributed pursuant to 17 CFR 240.15g-2.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

Schedule 15G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Instructions to Schedule 15G

A. The information contained in Schedule 15G ("Schedule") must be reproduced in its entirety. No language of the document may be omitted, added to, or altered in any way. No material may be given to a customer that is intended in any way to detract from, rebut, or contradict the Schedule.

B. The document entitled "Important Information on Penny Stocks" must be distributed as the first page of Schedule 15G, and on one page only. The remainder of Schedule 15G, entitled "Further Information," explains the items discussed in the first page in greater detail.

C. The disclosures made through the Schedule are in addition to any other disclosure(s) that are required to be made under the federal securities laws, including without limitation the disclosures required pursuant to the rules adopted under Sections 15(c)(1),

15(c)(2), and 15(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. 78o(c) (1) and (2), and 15 U.S.C. 78o(g), respectively.

D. The format and typeface of the document must be reproduced as presented in the Schedule. The document may be reproduced from the Schedule by photographic copying that is clear, complete, and at least satisfies the type-size requirements set forth below for printing. In the alternative, the document may be printed and must meet the following criteria regarding typeface:

1. Words appearing in capital letters in the Schedule must be reproduced in capital letters and printed in bold-face roman type at least as large as ten-point modern type and at least two points leaded.

2. Words appearing in lower-case letters must be reproduced in lower-case roman type at least as large as ten point modern type and at least two points leaded.

3. Words that are underlined in the document must be underlined in reproduction and appear in bold-faced roman type at least as large as ten point modern type and at least two points leaded, and meet the criteria for lower-case or capital letters in paragraphs (1) and (2) above, whichever is applicable.

E. Recipients of the document must not be charged any fee for the document.

F. The content of the Schedule is as follows:

[next page]

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON PENNY STOCKS

This statement is required by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and contains important information on penny stocks. Your broker-dealer is required to obtain your signature to show that you have received this statement before your first trade in a penny stock. You are urged to read this statement before signing and before making a purchase or sale of a penny stock.

Penny stocks can be very risky.

- Penny stocks are low-priced shares of small companies not traded on an exchange or quoted on NASDAQ. Prices often are not available. Investors in penny stocks often are unable to sell stock back to the dealer that sold them the stock. Thus, you may lose your investment. Be cautious of newly issued penny stock.

- Your salesperson is not an impartial advisor but is paid to sell you the stock. Do not rely only on the salesperson, but seek outside advice before you buy any stock. If you have problems with a salesperson, contact the firm's compliance officer or the regulators listed below.

Information you should get.

- *Before you buy penny stock*, federal law requires your salesperson to tell you the "offer" and the "bid" on the stock, and the "compensation" the salesperson and the firm receive for the trade. The firm also must